

BILL # HB 2700

TITLE: 9/11 monument; modification

SPONSOR: Kavanagh

STATUS: As Amended by House GOV

PREPARED BY: Leatta McLaughlin

FISCAL ANALYSIS

Description

This bill would require the Arizona Department of Administration (ADOA) to remove the existing elevated descriptive panels from the September 11, 2001 monument in the Wesley Bolin Memorial Plaza and replace the panels with a timeline of the events of the attack on the United States on that date. If the monument's modifications are not completed by September 10, 2009, ADOA shall cover the monument from public view until the modifications are completed. The bill allows the Speaker of the House and the President of the Senate to establish an Arizona September 11, 2001 Commemorative Monument Committee, which would raise monies and reimburse ADOA for the costs of the monument's modifications.

Estimated Impact

The bill's fiscal impact will depend on how HB 2700 is implemented:

- The bill would have no fiscal impact if sufficient private donations are generated to pay for the costs of removing and replacing the panels, which may be \$200,000 to \$250,000.
- If insufficient private donations are raised to pay for the panels' replacement, ADOA may decide to proceed and would absorb the costs not covered by the donations.
- If ADOA decides to cover the monument instead of replacing the panels, that cost would be minimal.

Analysis

In 2003, Governor Jane Dee Hull issued Executive Order 2003-02, which created the 9/11 Commission. The Commission was created to plan, design, and establish a memorial in remembrance of the events on September 11, 2001. According to this original 9/11 Commission, the cost to construct the monument was \$550,000. Of that amount, the cost attributed to the 7 panels is estimated by the Commission to be \$200,000 to \$250,000.

Laws 2007, Chapter 250 amended A.R.S § 41-1363 to require the Legislative Governmental Mall Commission to approve or reject any alterations or modifications to an existing monument or memorial in the Governmental Mall. The Commission approved alterations to 2 panels of the 9/11 monument on December 21, 2007, which includes the addition of 2 descriptive timelines and the removal of 2 existing statements. The 9/11 Commission has not yet received final bids for these alterations. All the panels would still be removed and replaced under this bill.

Local Government Impact

None